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As first class mail in an envelope addressed to Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on June 11,3003

MITTULA SUVINE Signature

Applicant

: Bin Zhao

Application No. Filed

: 10/016,784 : 11/30/2001

Title

: Channel Interleaver with Low Dispersion

Grp./Div.

: 2872

Examiner

: John Juba Jr.

Client Matter

: CIR1.PAU.14

06/18/2003 GWORDOF1 00000035 10016784

01 FC:1051 02 FC:1202 130.00 OF 360.00 OF RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

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Dear Sir: 07/15/2003 RJUNNS01 000 Month 50(329 10016784

01 FO: 175 In response to the Office Action mailed December 12, 2002, please amend the above identified patent application as follows:

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 1 - 17 without prejudice.

Please amend claim 18 as follows:

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18. (amended) A method for forming a low dispersion interleaver assembly, the method comprising forming two interleavers, each interleaver defining a stage having three birefringent elements, configured such that light passes sequentially therethrough, each interleaver being formed by selecting first stage phase delays, first stage orientations, second stage phase delays and second stage orientations from a single row of the table: